



Mark Your Calendars

Even though we are now enjoying the beauty of nature's summertime, it isn't too

FALL

Sept. 17

soon for you to think about Fall 1997 and an important event for your business calendar: NTIS 2000 User's Conference.

This conference will be held September 17 at the Washington

Hilton and Towers, Washington, DC. We hope this will be a convenient date since it is the final day of the popular Online World Information Conference at the same location.

We plan to offer attendees a comprehensive educational program with information-packed general sessions, skill-building workshops, and even presentations by our clients. Most importantly, we look to this as an opportunity for visitors to meet with NTIS staff from all departments.

Although we are still finalizing our agenda, you may plan on sessions about:

- · Searching the NTIS Database
- Business Partnership Opportunities
- · New Online Services
- · Multimedia Developments

Please consider this my personal invitation for you to join us at NTIS 2000. Check our Web site at *http://www.ntis.gov/userconf.htm* for details and registration or call our Subscriptions Department at (703) 487-4630. To receive information by fax, call (703) 487-4140 and key in document #8775 and your fax number.

Once you have marked your calendar for September 17, I hope you will review this edition of *NewsLine* carefully. We are highlighting a group of products we call "access tools." We developed these tools to ease your search for information products in our collection of nearly 3 million titles of scientific, technical, engineering, and business-related materials.

Have a good summer and I look forward to meeting with many of you at NTIS 2000.

Walter L. Finel

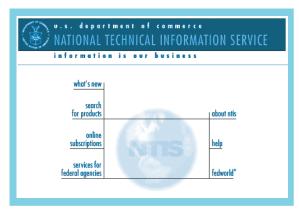
Walter L. Finch
Associate Director for Business Development

What Have We Done Lately?

The story goes that Sarah Winchester, a daughter-in-law of the Winchester rifle family, bought a small farmhouse in 1884. She then added steadily to the house for 38 years. Mrs. Winchester believed that this non-stop construction would keep the evil spirits away. Unlike the Winchester House, we established specific goals in building the NTIS Web site. As the site continues to grow, these goals continue to guide us.

- Goal 1: Increase the product listings on the site;
- Goal 2: Make it easy to locate information;
- Goal 3: Use graphics to enhance navigation.

As this Web site begins its second year, we are looking to expand our product listings in the areas of business, environment, health and safety, computer products, and audiovisuals. We are also creating new science and technology, army manuals



A changing world...NTIS' revised web site will be launched in June

and publications, published search, and NTIS reports collections.

The reports collection will allow customers to research the NTIS collection from 1964 to present by title or product number. This will be helpful to customers trying to determine the availability and pricing of a government report in the NTIS collection. The complete NTIS Database will still be available in a more comprehensive format through a number of service providers. A list of service providers is available on the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/ntisdb.htm.

The army manuals and publications collection has already been added to the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/databases/armypub.htm. The collection contains information on 5,500 of the most requested army publications including army technical manuals, field manuals, army handbooks, and technical bulletins. Additional titles will be added to the collection on an on-going basis.

We are also working to enhance our search options. Customers will shortly be able to seamlessly search all the collections on the Web site or narrow their focus to

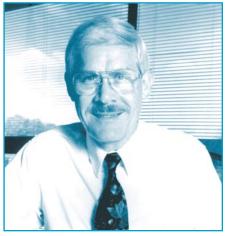
one or more product areas. The advanced search option will also provide a more detailed search form to select from several sort options, and to limit the number of titles in the search results. These improvements will make the collection more accessible.

Some modifications are also being made to the site's structure and graphics. These changes are designed (See What... on page 7)

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DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dr. Donald R. Johnson, Director
National Technical Information Service

"NTIS — The Central Source for Federal Information"

NTIS has the broadest possible access to federal scientific, technical, and engineering materials in areas you have requested like health, environment, and business. Our automated services and tools allow you to choose the most convenient research or access method to satisfy your information needs. For example, you can perform your own research directly on FedWorld, and our NTIS World Wide Web site. Browse from over 130,000 titles in the NTIS collection on our new OrderNowTM CD-ROM. Or review the online version (http://www.ntis.gov/ordernow) which includes the NTIS acquisitions from the last 90 days. We have made it possible for you to even order your documents online. Our goal is to make it possible for you to have the broadest and most affordable access to government information available today. Now, each of you can actively research and order the information you need using numerous options like paper, phone, fax and online methods. Look for a full description of our most popular access tools highlighted in this issue.

Just before Christmas, President Clinton announced that our new Commerce Secretary would be William M. Daley of Chicago. Mr. Daley already appears to be a very fortunate choice to "ensure that all department programs meet the standards of integrity that the American people expect." In his remarks to the Senate committee confirmation hearings, Mr. Daley said "The Commerce Department is where America's potential and promise come together, where our future jobs are created and our economic growth is nurtured. The... elements of Commerce come together for one mission: to enhance and maintain America's competitive posture." We are both pleased and committed to help Mr. Daley in any way that we can to rebuild a positive business image for the Department of Commerce.

As we move towards more automated technology, we will place a premium on the competitive advantage we have made with our online products and services. We have built healthy partnerships to foster our technical and economic growth with companies like McGraw Hill and SRA. We continue to serve government agencies with our CD-ROM, audiovisual, and online products and services. As the reliance on technology grows, NTIS will remain the central source for government information used by our customers for their analysis and decisions.

Unique Board Meets Unique Need

Although NTIS is a federal agency, it must operate like a business. Recognizing this, Congress required the U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary to establish an advisory board for NTIS with its members drawn from the private sector. The board reviews and advises NTIS on its mission, policies, pricing, strategic direction, and operation.

Our advisory board members include a cross section of industry and academia executives specializing in information collection, dissemination, technology, and

information users. Ms. Jean Mayhew, the manager of United Technology Research Center's library and information services is the current chair of the committee. The four other members are Joseph Shuster, chairman of Teltech; Dr. Salvatore Meringolo, vice president for development at St. Mary's College; Kenneth Allen, executive vice president and CEO of National Newspaper Association; Dr. John Regazzi, president and CEO of Engineering Information, Inc. NTIS is proud to have these entrepreneurial individuals as members of our advisory board.

NTIS NewsLine

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Technology Administration National Technical Information Service

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NewsLine is an outreach activity of the National Technical Information Service with an audience in both the private and public sectors. It announces new product development and describes trends in the world of electronic information dissemination where NTIS is a recognized leader. Recurring columns include commentary by the NTIS Director Dr. Donald R. Johnson, a report from the agency's customer advocate, and a listing of coming trade shows and exhibits where NTIS will be presenting.

NTIS is part of the Technology Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Its mission is to help stimulate America's progress through international dissemination of its scientific, technical, engineering, and business-related information.

This issue of NTIS NewsLine also may be found on the NTIS World Wide Web site http://www.ntis.gov under the News icon.

FOR SALE NOW



FDA Food Code 1997

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U.S.
Industry
and
Trade
Outlook
'98



Successor to the U.S. Industrial Outlook

These are Two of Many NTIS Paper Copy "Best Sellers" Which Include:

- CDC's The ABCs of Safe and Healthy Child Care.
 A Handbook for Child Care Providers
- Census' Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1996 (116th edition)
- ITA's Big Emerging Markets
- NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards

FOR PRICES AND TO ORDER

CALL NTIS
TELEPHONE SALES AT
(703) 487-4650

FEDWORLD

A New Innovative Service from NTIS' FedWorld... The New Federal Training MallTM at http://www.fedworld.gov/training

A collaborative effort with the Human Resource Development Council, providing easy access to a government-wide one-stop training shop

The federal government is the largest provider of training and development services in the country. It also seeks efficient methods of informing its employees and those in the private sector about these services. To best accomplish this, "construction" has begun on the new NTIS FedWorld Federal Training Mall.

The goal of this effort is to produce a central access point for courses, information, and materials which will conserve valuable government training resources. The Federal Training Mall will also make many of these services and materials available outside of government. Specifically, it will:

- Centralize access to government training information
- Dispense training materials and courseware government-wide
- Consolidate the training efforts of federal agencies
- Integrate the learning technologies for all to contribute and use

Here's a preview of the services in the Mall:

Federal **EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION** – This connects to the federal job search site on FedWorld.

Gateway to **OTHER TRAINING ACTIVITIES** – Here you find links to many federal government training organizations: USDA Graduate School, GSA Interagency Training Center, NASA Training and Development Home Page, OSHA Office of Training and Education, the National Institutes of Health, Division of Workforce Development and more.

Environmental **LEARNING RESOURCES** – Under construction.

Training Resource MATERIALS PRODUCTS AREA – This area is a database that lists course materials, training aids, educational CD-ROMs, videos, and other courseware produced by the government.

Federal **TRAINING MALL REGISTRY** – This will be the place in the Mall to go to find commercial companies/organizations that provide training services, courseware, and audiovisual production facilities. In short, it will be a kind of virtual training business marketplace.

Training **COURSE SCHEDULES** – This area hosts training course information, allowing for seamless browsing or searching across courses from the participating agencies. In the near future, online registration services will be available in this section of the Mall.

Human **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT** – Here is background information on the Human Resource Development Council: its mission, reports, schedule of events, and membership.

The Federal Training Mall is being developed in phases. Please drop in to explore the services that are now available and learn about services coming soon.

Find What You Need

As the NTIS collection has grown, so has NTIS awareness of the necessity to ensure that customers have the tools they need to find the information they want.

Today, NTIS provides seven easy-to-use, affordable access tools to make each customer's search an accurate and successful one.



First is the NTIS WORLD WIDE WEB site where users can easily browse through new and best selling titles by subject category. These titles offer government-produced information from around the world on more than 375 scientific, technical, engineering, and business-related topics of interest. Customers will find a concentration of highly sought after material in the environment, health and safety, and business fields.

In addition to finding product information, visitors to the Web site can also sign up for online subscriptions, review ordering options, or download popular NTIS catalogs. You will find NTIS at http://www.ntis.gov. For additional information on the Web site, call NTIS Fax Direct at (703) 487-4140 and ask for document number 8696.



NTIS ORDERNOW™ CATALOG ON CD-ROM (SUB-5398NER) provides descriptions of more than 130,000 of the latest products added to the NTIS collection from its source agencies, including technical reports, CD-ROMs, datafiles, and audiovisuals. Once customers identify the products they wish to purchase, NTIS OrderNow continues to help by providing a built-in order form capability. The system runs on a 386 (or higher) IBM compatible computer and offers quick and easy searching for novice, intermediate, and expert users.

The NTIS OrderNow CD-ROM product can be purchased from NTIS one of two ways - both affordably priced - as an annual subscription service with quarterly updates (call the Subscriptions Department at (703) 487-4630) and as a single disc (call the Sales Desk at (703) 487-4650).



A perfect complement to the OrderNow CD-ROM is the new, free OrderNow Online service that helps customers quickly locate and purchase the latest NTIS information products.

This service allows novice and expert alike to search by keyword across all database fields, or by entering a search term only for a specific field such as title, abstract, or source. The customer receives a weighted list of titles that match the criteria. The user then may click on a title for more information, or the OrderNow button to order. There is no obligation to buy.

Users can search as much and as often as they like at no charge. Customers purchase only when they find those products that they need. OrderNow Online then provides the customer with an electronically secure means of ordering government information products over the Web. Access this service at http://www.ntis.gov/ordernow.

More For Less

NTIS OrderNow is now available to customers worldwide. Plus, NTIS will offer the same unit price for orders shipped outside North America that is available for the United States, Canada, and Mexico, when the order is placed online through the OrderNow Online system. International customers can use OrderNow to identify products and then fax or mail their orders; however, only those orders placed online through OrderNow will qualify for the OrderNow Online domestic pricing.

With These Seven Access Tools

The NTIS DATABASE is the preeminent resource for accessing, either online or on CD-ROM, listings of more than 2,000,000 information products acquired by NTIS from 1964 to the present. The database is available through several commercial services and also may be leased directly from NTIS. The commercial vendors are:

Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information	1-800-668-1222
DATA-STAR	1-800-221-7754
DIALOG	1-800-334-2564
NERAC	(860) 872-7000
Ovid Technologies, Inc.	1-800-950-2035
Questel-Orbit, Inc.	1-800-456-7248
SilverPlatter Information, Inc.	1-800-343-0064
STN International/CAS	

DTIS Database

For more information and updates to the vendor listing, access the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/ntisdb.htm. Customers may also call NTIS Fax Direct at (703) 487-4140 and request document number 8198.

More than 1,600 new titles are added to the NTIS collection each week. Developed at the request of its customers, the NTIS ALERT subscription service screens these additions and provides the customer with the titles available in one of 16 areas of interest. These include the popular Environmental Pollution and Control, Material Science, Transportation, and Biomedical Technology & Human Factors Engineering.

An NTIS Alert provides an efficient, economical, and timely way to stay in touch with the latest studies and R&D reports in a specific field. For more information, access the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/alerts.htm. You may also call NTIS Fax Direct at (703) 487-4140 and ask for document number 8197. To order an NTIS Alert, call NTIS Subscriptions Department at (703) 487-4630.

Published Search® customers are truly surprised by the timeliness and scope of information provided by this research tool. The searches are exclusively prepared bibliographies which summarize completed research from the U.S. government and worldwide sources. Each published search contains the 50-250 latest abstracts of reports and studies on a given topic from a pre-selected database. An emphasis is placed on scientific, technical, and engineering information. But, material dealing with business, law, security issues, manufacturing, mathematical sciences, and much more is also available.

When a customer orders a *Published Search*, a new database search is run and an updated bibliography is produced just for this request. Samples of searches include Lasers in Medicine, Accident Investigations: Aircraft, and Ozone Depletion.

More information on the Published Search product may be found at the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/pubsrch.htm or by calling NTIS Fax Direct at (703) 487-4140 and requesting document number 8222. The NTIS Sales Desk at (703) 487-4650 can take your order for a Published Search or send you a free copy of the Published Search Master Catalog, PR-186NER.

SRIM® - SELECTED RESEARCH IN MICROFICHE - is NTIS' way of providing subscribers with microfiche copies of the full texts of reports.

This service is especially valuable for corporate and special libraries. The customer may choose from more than 350 existing subject areas or have a new subject area created to meet specific needs. Through this ongoing subscription service, the customer receives microfiche copies of new reports when they enter the NTIS collection, in many instances, before the acquisition is even announced.

More information on SRIM is available at the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/srim.htm. You may also call NTIS Fax Direct at (703) 487-4140 and ask for document number 8234. The NTIS Subscriptions Department at (703) 487-4630 can take your order for a SRIM subscription or arrange to send you a free copy of the Selected Research in Microfiche Guide, PR-271NER.





Selected Research InMicrofiche



The National Audiovisual Center —

Getting Your Program in the Picture.

Did you know that NTIS has an exceptional video production program? The National Audiovisual Center

has over 25 years of experience producing audiovisual and multimedia products for the federal government, as well as for state and local governments, private industry, universities and schools.

Knowledgeable staff at the NAC can help you plan your audiovisual package so that it gets your message across in the best possible light to exactly the right audience. They will work with you to develop special packaging and distribution for your program. Whatever your audiovisual questions, they have the answers; whatever your message, they can develop a program to showcase it.

In addition to the video production program, the NAC has an impressive collection of over 9,000 government-produced audiovisual and multimedia products in more than 600 subject headings. As you might imagine, this collection is as colorful and as varied as the organizations that produced them. These affordable programs are ideal for classrooms, employee training programs, library collections, and home use.

For further details on the NAC's audiovisual services, or if you would like to discuss placing your videos with NTIS for production and distribution, please contact Ms. Janice Coe, manager, NAC, Audiovisual Services at (703) 487-4743.

Visit the NAC Web site at http://www.ntis.gov/nac/ to view titles of many popular video packages as well as electronic copies of its catalogs. The NAC also has a Help Desk at (703) 487-4603 staffed by one of the center's specialists, Ms. Lu Lathan. She can provide you more detailed product information.

NTIS Fax Direct[®], Another Free Service to Assist Our Customers

NTIS Fax Direct, our fax-on-demand information system, provides information on NTIS products and services directly to your fax machine – when you need it. NTIS uses Fax Direct to provide more information on:

- Our Most Popular Products such as NLM's Grateful Med (#8136), a program that links you to NLM's vast collection of medical and health science information and databases.
- Large Groups of Products such as our Country Commercial Guides (#360). These guides, prepared overseas by agencies of the U.S. government, provide the facts you need to succeed in more than 100 foreign markets.
- Products that have lengthy descriptions, specifications, or disclaimers you
 need to know before purchasing Many of our databases, online services,
 and computer products are described in full detail in documents on
 NTIS Fax Direct.
- General Information You can get an up-to-date price schedule (#8512), order form (#8513), map to our bookstore (#8486), general information about NTIS (#8511), and more.

To use Fax Direct: Call (703) 487-4140* from a touch tone phone, follow the directions – enter the document number you want, enter your fax machine number – it's as simple as that. * To obtain the *Country Commercial Guides* listed above, call Fax Direct at (703) 487-4099.

In the coming months, NTIS Fax Direct will be modernized!

- New equipment and software have been installed and are currently being tested.
- There will be only one phone number to reach the service, all previously published Fax Direct phone numbers will forward into the new system.
- Fax from the Web you won't have to tie up your printer printing our Web pages, let your fax machine handle it; our Web site will forward your request to the Fax Direct system.

TMs...FMs...ARs...TBs

NTIS is now distributing U.S. Army technical manuals, field manuals, regulations, technical bulletins, and other similar publications to the general public through an arrangement with the Army Publications and Printing Agency.

This program is part of NTIS' ongoing effort to provide its customers full access to the government's technical materials. Previously, these publications could only be ordered from the U.S. Army which could not readily handle such individual inquiries. Now, NTIS offers access to this material by providing customers the quick placement of orders into the Army supply system. NTIS also provides full support should an ordering delay occur.

NTIS offers a CD-ROM which lists more than 60,000 Army Manuals and Regulations. Most of these are available as printed publications; a few are available only in microfiche format.

More than 5,500 of the most requested of these publications may be ordered now by title or publication number from NTIS. Customers may search these titles at the NTIS Web site (www.ntis.gov/databases/armypub.htm) to determine pricing and availability. Once located, customers then order the specific report through the NTIS Telephone Sales Desk at (703) 487-4650.

NTIS Initiates Faster, Improved Shipping System

Recently, NTIS implemented two new services that enable faster delivery of documents for national and international customers in a traceable manner. According to agency Director Don Johnson, "NTIS is dedicated to providing customers better service in every aspect of our business, including document delivery."

Domestic bulk orders and parcels represent about half of what NTIS ships. Formerly, those orders could take several days for customers to receive and there was no way to trace their shipment. Customer-requested catalogs and other informational materials were shipped 4th class mail and took up to three weeks for delivery. Today, at no additional cost, the new traceable delivery services will rush customer's shipments anywhere in the country in two days or less.

International customers often waited several weeks under the previous delivery system. Now, for the same price, the new service speeds delivery of international documents to most countries overseas as fast as in a week.

What...(cont. from page 1)

to make the Web site easier to use. regardless of a customer's browser or Internet access.

How can we judge our success in meeting the goals for this Web site certainly not by the number of evil spirits that we keep at bay. Instead, its success will be based on how useful the site is for our customers. By the time you read this article, a number of the above changes will be in place. Please visit the NTIS Web site at http://www.ntis.gov and tell us what you think. We'll be looking forward to your feedback at our User's Conference in September. You may also call the NTIS Subscriptions Department at (703) 487-4630 or send your comments by e-mail to webmaster.ntis.fedworld.gov.

NTIS Newsline Number 49

CUSTOMER ADVOCATE'S CORNER

Looking for that hard to find article on World War II? Or, maybe, how to cook dinner for 100 people? How about the best place to conduct business in Russia and the Independent States? Or, a language course on Spanish, or Swedish, or Swahili? Or, facts you want your child care provider to know? Or, maybe, you just purchased a surplus Army jeep and need a manual that tells you how to repair it.

Well, all that information, and much more, is waiting for you at NTIS. With nearly 3 million items in our collection, we're a good source to search first when looking for information on just about any topic. The latest studies on health and safety, business and the environment, international news—it's all here! And, we've made that information even easier to find.

Have you visited our Web site at http://www.ntis.gov? If not, stop by. During its first year, the Web site had nearly 750,000 visits! It's a great place to learn about NTIS. Our sales representatives continue to receive favorable comments from customers they have referred to the site.

From our Web site, it's just the click of a button to jump to FedWorld®, where you can gain access to information from more than 60 government agencies and programs. FedWorld remains intensely popular, with Web site visits numbering over 2 million since its inception. Our FedWorld Help Desk staff informs me that they receive a large volume of e-mail from our FedWorld users, many of whom take the time to let us know they are elated with this service. For example, pilots, both commercial and private, are especially pleased that over the past year, the Federal Aviation Administration Airworthiness Directives have been made publicly available at no charge. Whether you own a small plane or an entire airline, you'll want to visit this site at http://www.fedworld.gov/faasearch.html.

And you won't want to miss our new free online service, NTIS OrderNow™ at http://www.ntis.gov/ordernow. It's a marvelous way to identify the latest additions to the NTIS collection and to place your order online while you're shopping with us. You may also want to purchase our new OrderNow CD-ROM which includes descriptions of over 130,000 of the latest products added to the NTIS collection. One of our best customers who has been in the information dissemination business for years called to let me know how impressed he was with the OrderNow CD-ROM and asked me to pass along his compliments to whomever created it.

And, remember, as always, if you ever have difficulty finding something in our collection, just call us at (703) 487-4650. We're all here to help you.

> Pat Moton, Customer Advocate pmoton@ntis.fedworld.gov

WEB-BASED SERVICE	HELP DESK	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
FedWorld®	FedWorld	(703) 487-4223	helpdesk@fedworld.gov
BXA/EAR	FedWorld	(703) 487-4223	helpdesk@fedworld.gov
Davis-Bacon	FedWorld	(703) 487-4223	helpdesk@fedworld.gov
NTIS Home Page	FedWorld	(703) 487-4223	helpdesk@fedworld.gov
NTIS OrderNow™Online	FedWorld	(703) 487-4223	helpdesk@fedworld.gov
World News Connection®	WNC	(703) 487-4045	wncinf@ntis.fedworld.gov
NTIS help desks are staffed Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern time.			

Volume 1, 1997

Requests for information and assistance can be sent by E-mail 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 7

COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU

BXA/UpdateWashington

July 7-9, 1997 J.W. Marriott Washington, DC

 American Correctional Association's (ACA) 126th Congress of Correction & Exhibit Show

> August 10-14, 1997 Orange County Convention Center Orlando. FL

Open Source Solutions, Inc.

> September 3-5, 1997 Marriott Crystal Gateway Crystal City, VA

Online World

September 15-17, 1997 Washington Hilton Washington, DC ■ NTIS Users' Conference

September 17, 1997 Washington Hilton Washington, DC



For more information about NTIS at these exhibits, please contact Heather Dolby at (703) 487-4806. For updated schedules and special offers, access the World Wide Web at http://www.fedworld.gov/ntis/exhibit.htm. *This schedule is subject to change.*



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PR-660



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